CLINICAL TREATMENT:

1360

ADJUNCTIVE SERVICES

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VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES

Overview

The Department of Rehabilitation (DR) has an Interagency Agreement (IA) with the Department of Mental Health, Long Term Care Services, to provide cooperative vocational rehabilitation planning to appropriate state hospital patients in preparation for their discharge to the community. State hospital CONREP patients are eligible to participate in this agreement as part of their discharge plan.

Community Funding for State Hospital Referrals

In order to enhance community access to DR services, the interagency agreement established a DR statewide case service fund account to be utilized specifically for state hospital referrals. Upon referral from a state hospital Co-op Counselor, these patients are eligible for a wide range of community-based DR services funded by this identified case service budget.

Eligibility

Vocational Rehabilitation services (see below) may only be provided to those CONREP and other patients who, with appropriate support services, would likely be able to be employed in a competitive (non-subsidized) work situation. This excludes sheltered workshop employment.

State Hospital Program

Each state hospital has designated Vocational Services staff to be the Cooperative Rehabilitation Counselors (Co-op Counselors) to prepare the necessary referral packets and provide evaluation and testing services prior to discharge, if appropriate. Following the Co-op Counselor's referral of the patient for DR services, the state hospital program provides DR funding for the patient in the community for identified services upon discharge. (See below.)

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Referral to Department of Rehabilitation Services

The purpose of a Department of Rehabilitation referral is to assist the individual interested in education and/or employment services to achieve career goals. DR does not require an individual to be employed 40 hours per week to achieve their vocational objective or career goal.

A referral packet with current medical and psychiatric reports and other evaluation information needed for eligibility determination is sent from the hospital to the local DR office where the patient will be receiving services. For CONREP referrals, the state hospital Co-op Counselors also contact the CONREP community program regarding the patient's referral to DR.

CONREP Responsibility

The CONREP state hospital liaison should incorporate contacts with the state hospital Co-op Counselors into the discharge plan. The Co-op Counselors can then provide the assessment and referral services for those eligible CONREP patients, thereby providing access to vocational rehabilitation services through the specialized fund for state hospital patients.

Department of Rehabilitation Employment Services

These services are provided by a Department of Rehabilitation Vocational Counselor in the community. DR funding may be encumbered for services, which directly contribute to increasing a person's employability. Depending on a patient's needs and the availability of other resources, the Vocational Counselor and patient decide which services are essential for achieving an agreed upon vocational objective.

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Department of Rehabilitation Employment Services

(cont.)

These services may include:

- * Vocational evaluation;
- * Counseling and guidance;
- * Job training, books, and training supplies to learn the job skills needed for an appropriate job;
- * Maintenance;
- * Transportation;
- * Tools:
- * Services for family members;
- * Reader, interpreter and note taking services;
- * Telecommunications, sensory and other technological aids and devices; and
- * Rehabilitation engineering services to customize and adapt equipment and devices.

Transitional Employment Services

Service Providers

Transitional Employment Services are provided by private or public vendor agencies or programs under contract with the Department of Rehabilitation. An agency may become certified by DR as a rehabilitation facility (vendor) in order to provide any of the following types of transitional services to assist clients to obtain competitive employment.

Work Services

Work services are those provided by programs that offer workshop or supported employment designed to develop, maintain and increase the individual's earnings and productivity and/or improve work attitudes and behaviors. Work services consist of the following specialization:

- * Work adjustment;
- * Work experience;
- * Supported Employment; and
- * Job coaching.

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VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES

Transitional Employment Services (cont.)

Vocational Evaluation A vocational evaluation is a systematic,

organized program of specific services to assess an individual's capabilities, limitations and work related behaviors. It also provides specific recommendations of services needed to achieve vocational potential. This includes use of simulated job stations, on-the-job evaluation, or

work sampling.

Vocational Trade Training This is an organized program of instruction and

guidance to impart the skills necessary for

employment in a specific job or job family.

Employment Preparation, Job Development and Placement

ob Development and Placement

This service is designed to assist individuals identify, obtain and keep a job that is suitable to

their abilities, skills and needs. Included are training in job-seeking techniques, job referrals

and follow-up after employment.

Independent Living Services These services consist of a wide range of

organized efforts to develop, maintain and maximize an individual's ability to function and live independently. Activities are related to the areas of evaluation, counseling, services and

training.